

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET

COUNTRY Albania/Satellite Countries

REPORT NO.

25X1

SUBJECT Economic  
Anticipated 1953-1955 Imports

DATE DISTR.

9 July 1953

NO. OF PAGES

1

25X1 DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO.

25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

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Below is a tabulation of estimated amount of imports, in thousands of rubles, which Albania anticipates receiving during 1953, 1954, and 1955:

Country	1953	1954	1955	Total for Three Years
Soviet Union	22.2	26.7	28.6	75.5
Czechoslovakia	14.2	14.2	9.9	38.3
Poland	8.1	8.6	8.1	24.8
Hungary	4.2	4.3	4.8	13.3
Rumania	11.2	7.	8.	26.2
Eastern Germany	7.4	5.4	5.9	18.7
Bulgaria	5.4	7.3	3.3	16.
Total	72.7	73.5	68.6	212.8

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Comment: Although there was no indication in the original report that these anticipated imports are part of the Albanian Five Year Plan, they are probably part of the Plan.

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC									
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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SECRET/

COUNTRY Albania  
SUBJECT The 23rd Coastal Brigade

REPORT NO.

25X1

DATE DISTR.

13 July 1953

NO. OF PAGES

3

DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO.

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REFERENCES

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1. The 23rd Coastal Brigade, as it has been called since July 1951, is located in the northern section of the city of Durres. The Brigade Headquarters is housed in two buildings, one of two stories and one of three stories, which were constructed by the Italians. This is the largest Albanian coast defense unit and it is under the special direction of a division of the National Defense Ministry. The Commander of the Brigade until November, 1951 was Lt. Colonel Teki Kolnetsi from Koritsa and Major Mahmout Angoli was Chief of Staff.
  2. It is believed that the Brigade has four battalions; one, an A/A battalion, has its headquarters about 150 meters north of the city fort of Durres. Another, a battalion of coast defense artillery is stationed at Durres and has its headquarters in a three story building about fifty meters to the West of the fort.  other battalions of the Brigade are stationed at Vlone, Saseno, and Sarande.
  3. The A/A battalion had three batteries which were located at the following positions:
    - Battery A located within the city fort.
    - Battery B located at a distance of about 50 meters from the gasoline tanks of the former Italian oil company, AGIP.
    - Battery C located north-northwest of the city fort and about 500 meters from the guns of battery A.
- Battery A  commanded by Captain A'Kosta Bithkouki. It was equipped with 4-76 mm guns which were placed in a straight

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STATE	ARMY	X	NAVY	AIR	X	FBI	AEC												
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SECRET, [REDACTED]

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line at a distance of about 15-20 meters from each other. The base of the guns was located about 0.90 meters below the ground and was on a concrete foundation. Battery A had a telemeter and an electric firing guide which operated on current from the city power supply. In case of power failure, the firing was done without the guide because there was no generator for the Battery. The Battery also had an A/A searchlight which was not in working order. Battery B was equipped with 40 mm guns. Battery C had four 20 mm guns; two to each of the two platoons which composed the Battery.

4. Around the gun positions and on the ground's surface, there were, on a circle's circumference, number-bearing signs which were placed in such positions around the guns that they corresponded to the eight points of the horizon. The numbers were North: 1-Northeast: 12; East: 2-Southeast: 32; South: 3-Southwest: 34; West: 4-Northwest: 14. All the guns had the signs at the same positions and the same circle was also at the observation post. The observer when reporting, telephoned the Battery Commander who, at the time of alert, was stationed at the guide reporting the target's direction. The Commander would give the order "On the air at position." Then all the guns and the telemeter were turned to direction 4, 5, or whatever was specified. The telemeter operators immediately gave three measurements of the height to the Commander who would compute its average and give the resulting figure to the firing director. The guns would then automatically take the firing position. In case there was no electric current, the Commander would give the height directly to the guns.
5. The alarm system of Battery A was as follows: Battery A had one observation post manned by two soldiers during the day. They observed by listening, and at night they were joined by another soldier. The alarm was given by three knocks on an empty shell case and the "all clear" was given by one. One telephone connected the observation post with the electric firing director of the Battery.
6. The Group V.A.I.N., Vrojta Aerore Informata Nderlidhjes (Air Observation - Information - Communications) of Durres was located on a height north of the city, at a distance of 2,750 meters ([REDACTED] northwest of the telemeter's position, at about position (QG 01-47)). When the V.A.I.N. Group noticed planes headed toward the city or had information over the wireless set at its disposal, from other V.A.I.N. stations that airplanes were approaching from a certain direction, it notified by telephone the A/A Artillery Battalion Command which would give the alarm signal to it three Batteries.
7. [REDACTED] were other units of the 23rd Coastal Brigade at the following positions:

Cape Rodunit	(QG 05-74)
St. John Medua	(QG 05-74)
Cape Palit	(QG 98-54)
Durres, Northern section	Three 88 mm guns, probably German housed in four temporary one-storey buildings.
Cape Liangi	(QG 98-25) 3-4 guns, 150 mm
[REDACTED]	(QG 06-34) two 88 mm and one 150 mm.

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8. During the first six months of 1950, one Battalion of Engineers worked in the area between Durres and Sigiak, on the heights located at approximately (QG 06-43); it was believed that permanent concrete machine gun emplacements were being constructed.

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1.  Comment: It is not known if this is the same person as Colonel Teki Koloneci who in May 1950 was listed as being in the office of the General Staff in the Ministry of National Defense.

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